

GORDON HINTZ

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

54th DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SENIORCARE EXTENDED AFTER DEMOCRATS MAKE REQUEST

Prescription drug program extended 10 years

MADISON – Last month, Democratic leaders, including Assembly Democratic Leader Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh), <u>sent a letter</u> to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requesting a 10-year renewal of the successful SeniorCare program. On Friday, April 12, CMS announced that they granted the 10-year extension request. Affordable, accessible health care for those in every stage of life continues to be a cornerstone the Wisconsin Democrats' agenda.

"Many seniors across Wisconsin are on a fixed income and every dollar counts. Without SeniorCare, people would lose access to life-saving medications," Rep. Hintz stated. "This 10-year extension is a huge win for Wisconsin. I'm grateful to Governor Evers and DHS Secretary Palm for their leadership on this issue."

The SeniorCare program, created in 2002 with bipartisan support, has provided prescription drug assistance to thousands of Wisconsin residents age 65 years or older who meet certain eligibility criteria. Over 50,000 Wisconsin residents age 65 years or older count on SeniorCare for prescription drug assistance.

"I have spoken with many Oshkosh area seniors who rely on this important program. SeniorCare is a model of how an effective public prescription drug plan can operate. Under SeniorCare, Wisconsin seniors do less paperwork and pay less for co-pays thanks to the ability to negotiate lower prices with pharmaceutical companies. This has saved taxpayers millions and provided seniors with affordable access to the prescription drugs they depend on."

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